

AN ASSEMBLY FOR WRITING AND / OR ERASING

HIGH DENSITY DATA ON A MEDIA

ABSTRACT

The invention discloses an assembly capable of writing/erasing
5 high-density data, preferably on a phase-change recording media. A preferred
embodiment of the invention features a novel thermal near-field heater that may
be employed in the assembly, preferably for writing in a substantially thermal
near-field mode. The invention provides advantages of writing densities greater
than that of diffraction limited systems, for example, writing densities of
10 approximately greater than 100 Gbit / inch², and writing speeds approximately
greater than 100MHz.